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PATENT
0512-1026

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Yves HERANNEY

Appl. No.: **NEW**

Group:

Filed: April 2, 2002

Examiner:

For: ADJUSTABLE ARMREST FOR AN INSIDE WALL OF
A MOTOR VEHICLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

April 2, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the rewritten Abstract of the Disclosure attached on a separate sheet attached hereto.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between lines 8 and 9, please insert the following heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, between lines 20 and 21, please insert the following heading:

--OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 3, between lines 2 and 3, please insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Page 3, between lines 20 and 21, please insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-11 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add the following new claims:

--12/(New) An armrest for an inside wall of a motor vehicle, in particular for a door, the armrest being of elongate shape along a main longitudinal axis, presenting a first end region along said axis, said first end region being connected to the wall by means of a connection member, wherein the connection member defines a pivoting connection about a substantially horizontal transverse axis enabling the armrest to move angularly relative to the wall, and the armrest

includes a locking member co-operating with a stop piece secured to the wall and adapted to hold the armrest in modifiable manner in a selected angular position.--

--13/(New) An armrest according to claim 12, wherein the stop piece and the locking member have complementary notches and teeth extending radially relative to the pivot axis, said notches and teeth presenting a plurality of relative positions and being coupled together or uncoupled by relative movement in substantially longitudinal translation.--

--14/(New) An armrest according to claim 13, wherein the stop piece has at least one notch while the locking member has a plurality of teeth.--

--15/(New) An armrest according to claim 13, wherein the stop piece is fixed relative to the wall and the locking member has a rod that is slidable relative to the armrest in a substantially longitudinal direction.--

--16/(New) An armrest according to claim 15, wherein a return spring acting in the sliding direction of the rod connects said rod to the armrest in such a manner as to apply a force tending to couple together the notches and the teeth.--

--17/(New) An armrest according to claim 15, wherein the armrest presents a hollow inside volume in which the stop piece and at least a portion of the locking member carrying the teeth extend, an end portion of the rod extending to a top face of the armrest so as to constitute a control member.--

--18/(New) An armrest according to claim 12, wherein the connection member comprises a shaft mounted to turn in a complementary hole of a fixing piece secured to the wall, and a friction ring engaged on said shaft and bearing against an adjacent wall of the fixing piece so as to exert torque that resists pivoting of the armrest relative to the wall.--

--19/(New) An armrest according to claim 18, wherein the friction ring is made of a flexible elastic material, in particular of rubber.--

--20/(New) An armrest according to claim 12, wherein the armrest is secured to a handle which presents a circularly arcuate rod centered on the pivot axis of the armrest, the rod being engaged in a hole formed through a substantially horizontal arm of a force transmission piece secured to the wall so as to enable the rod to slide freely through the hole with a small amount of radial clearance.--

--21/(New) An armrest according to claim 20, wherein the handle member is a hollow piece fitted to the armrest in a complementary recess, the rod extending downwards essentially in a recess within the armrest that is adapted to receive at least the perforated portion of the arm of the force transmission piece.--

--22/(New) A motor vehicle including an armrest according to claim 12.--

REMARKS

Claims 12-22 are pending in the present application.
Claims 1-11 have been cancelled.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited.
An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims and Abstract by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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BC/bam
Attachments

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

A B S T R A C T

~~AN ADJUSTABLE ARMREST FOR AN INSIDE WALL OF A MOTOR VEHICLE~~

An armrest for an inside wall of a motor vehicle, in particular for a door, the armrest being of elongate shape along a main longitudinal axis, presenting a first end region ~~(5A) along said axis, said~~ along the axis, the first end region ~~(5A) being connected to the wall by means of a connection member (7), the armrest being characterized in that~~ member, wherein the connection member ~~(7)~~ defines a pivoting connection about a substantially horizontal transverse axis ~~(X-X)~~ enabling the armrest ~~(5)~~ to move angularly relative to the wall, and the armrest ~~(5)~~ includes a locking member ~~(10)~~ co-operating with a stop piece ~~(12)~~ secured to the wall and adapted to hold the armrest ~~(5)~~ in modifiable manner in a selected angular position.

~~Translation of the title and the abstract as they were when originally filed by the Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that may have been made subsequently by the PCT Authorities acting ex officio, e.g., under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.~~

A B S T R A C T

An armrest for an inside wall of a motor vehicle, in particular for a door, the armrest being of elongate shape along a main longitudinal axis, presenting a first end region along the axis, the first end region being connected to the wall by a connection member, wherein the connection member defines a pivoting connection about a substantially horizontal transverse axis enabling the armrest to move angularly relative to the wall, and the armrest includes a locking member co-operating with a stop piece secured to the wall and adapted to hold the armrest in modifiable manner in a selected angular position.